


EIGHTH REGIONAL MEETING OF GBIF-AFRICA: Updates on progress against Global Nodes strategy 2020-2021




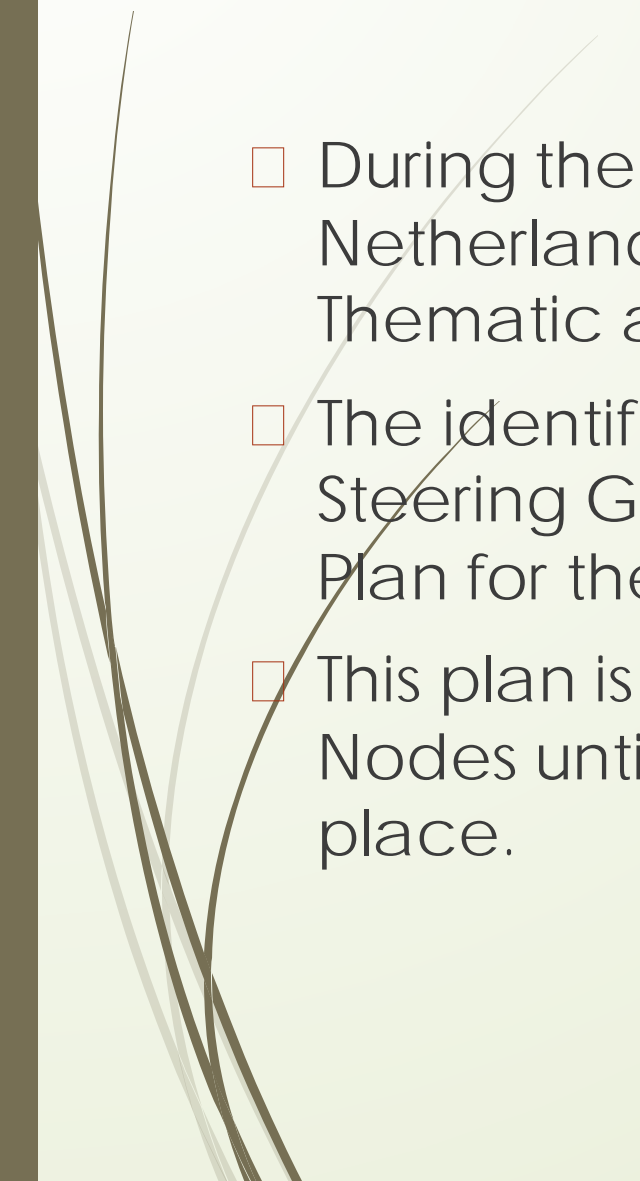
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Dr. GANGLO C. Jean
Professor of Forest sciences
Node Manager of GBIF Benin
Regional Representative of GBIF-Africa
Virtual meeting 10-12 June 2020

Content

- 
- ☐ Introduction
 - ☐ Methods
 - ☐ Results
 - ☐ Challenges to overcome / discussion points

INTRODUCTION

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- 
- During the 15th Global Nodes meeting at Naturalis, Netherlands, the Nodes Committee discussed in Thematic and Regional groups.
 - The identified priorities were refined by the Node Steering Group (NSG) to prepare the Nodes Strategic Plan for the two coming years.
 - This plan is intended to guide the global efforts of the Nodes until 2022 when the new GBIF Strategy will be in place.

METHODS

- On June 08th, at 10pm (GMT+1), we received from the nodes a total 13 presentations. Due to the remaining time ahead of the meeting, we sampled the presentations received at the rate of 69% and read carefully the samples retained and took them into account to inform the advancement of the nodes towards the achievements of the global nodes strategy. The sampling also took into account, the representativeness of the sub regions of Africa. The participants sampled from the feedbacks at the time, are marked with a green asterisk

New nodes	Senior nodes	Organizations
Angola*	Benin*	EWT*
Cameroon*	Ghana*	
Niger	Guinea	
Nigeria*	Kenya*	
South Sudan	South Africa*	
Zimbabwe*	Togo	

RESULTS: PROGRESS AGAINST GLOBAL NODES STRATEGY

- ❑ **Strategic objective 1: Investigate Regional coordination**
- ❑ **See presentation and discussion on ACM**
- ❑ **Challenges:**
 - ❑ Operationalize the ACM through
 - ❑ Consultation on the document and then endorsement (two weeks) and feedback to RR and Fatima
 - ❑ Collaboration with nodes (support from nodes)
 - ❑ Collaboration and interactions with GBIF secretariat to ensure collective and global achievements
 - ❑ Fundraising is the issues
 - ❑ Node / national levels
 - ❑ Regional levels
 - ❑ International level

☐ Strategic objective 2: Improve data relevance

☐ *(Alignment to Objective 2 of GBIF-Africa AP: Build capacity to deliver relevant data across the data-science-policy interface and to GBIF Strategic Plan: S01, S05)*

☐ From data consulted on GBIF site, preserved specimen data published by the sampled nodes vary between 10 to 75%. This underlines that efforts should continue towards improving relevant data in terms of preserved specimens and long-term monitoring surveys data against human observation data

☐ **Challenges:**

☐ Promote more relevant data in terms of preserved specimens and long-term monitoring surveys data

RESULTS: PROGRESS AGAINST GLOBAL NODES STRATEGY

☐ Strategic objective 3: Explore new data types

- ☐ *(Alignment with objective 01 of GBIF-Africa AP: Strengthen capacity to mobilize foundational data and to GBIF Strategic Plan: SO1, SO3 & SO4)*
- ☐ Effort towards collecting and publishing abundance data and sampling event data are ongoing in 55.6% of the sampled nodes (Ghana, Kenya, EWT, and Benin)

☐ Challenge

- ☐ Reinforce mobilization and publication of abundance and sampling event data in the nodes

☐ Objective 4: Lower technical threshold

- ☐ *(Alignment with the Objective 03 of GBIF-Africa AP: Build institutional capacity in Biodiversity Information Management and to GBIF Strategic Plan: S01)*
- ☐ Websites / portals exist in 66.67% of the nodes sampled

☐ Challenges

- ☐ Promote repositories, websites / portals in the nodes

☐ Objective 5: Strengthen our network

- ☐ (Alignment to GBIF-Africa AP objective 04 : Strengthen regional engagement and GBIF Strategic Plan S01)
- ☐ 4 FTE persons don't exist in the sampled nodes
- ☐ IT persons are lacking in 55.56% of the nodes sampled (Angola, Ghana, South Africa, EWT, and Benin)
- ☐ Data manager and outreach and communication person are lacking in some nodes (Nigeria, Kenya)

☐ Challenge

- ☐ When possible, staff the nodes to reach the ideal composition

□ Objective 6: Redefine participation

- *(Alignment to GBIF-Africa AP objectives 01, 04, and GBIF Strategic Plan S01)*
- Efforts of data mobilization and publication are in progress in all the nodes sampled
- Data use is ongoing in 88.89% of the nodes sampled
- Support to community services are ongoing in all nodes sampled

□ Challenge

- Reinforce data mobilization, data use, and services to the community

DISCUSSION POINTS

□ How to overcome the challenges:


1. Promote more relevant data in terms of preserved specimens and long-term monitoring surveys data
2. Reinforce mobilization and publication of abundance and sampling event data in the nodes
3. Promote repositories, websites / portals in the nodes
4. Whenever, staff the nodes to reach the ideal composition
5. Reinforce data mobilization, data use, and services to the community



Giới thiệu về GBIF và tầm nhìn
của Việt Nam

THANK YOU

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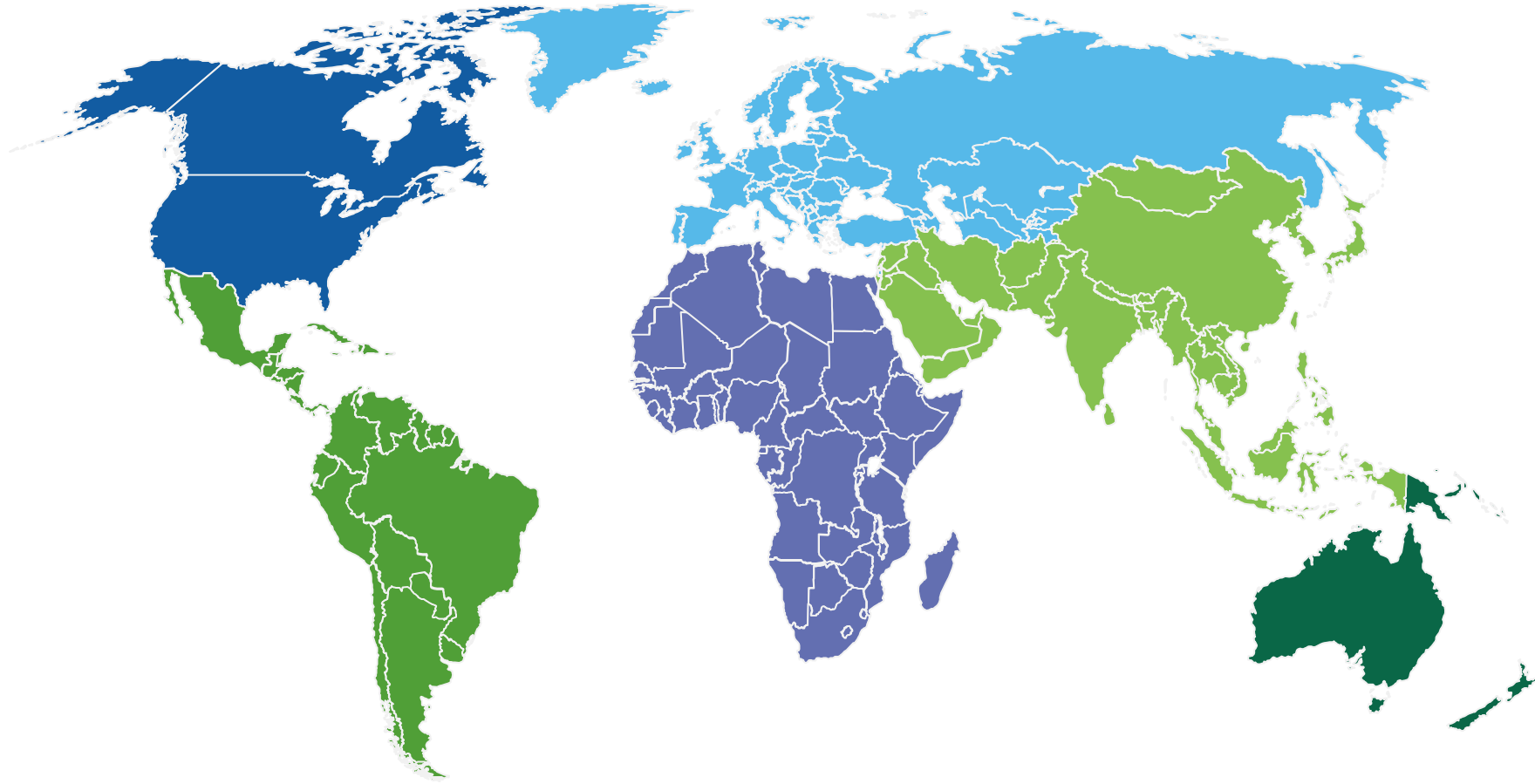


Draft GBIF regional outreach strategy: Africa

Tim Hirsch | Deputy Director



GBIF REGIONS



For rationale on definition of the GBIF regions, see the preamble below the map at e.g. <https://www.gbif.org/the-gbif-network/africa>

SOME CONTEXT

- This is a ***draft regional outreach strategy*** as an initial suggestion from the Secretariat. Details and timelines to be discussed and agreed.
- Once adopted, it should be regarded as a ***joint strategy for the whole community***, with roles shared between nodes, Secretariat and HoDs where appropriate
- One of the key purposes of the strategy would be to help provide rationale for ***regional outreach activities*** funded under an extension to the CESP programme outlined in the 2020 Work Programme but deferred to 2021 (and other funding sources that may be identified)

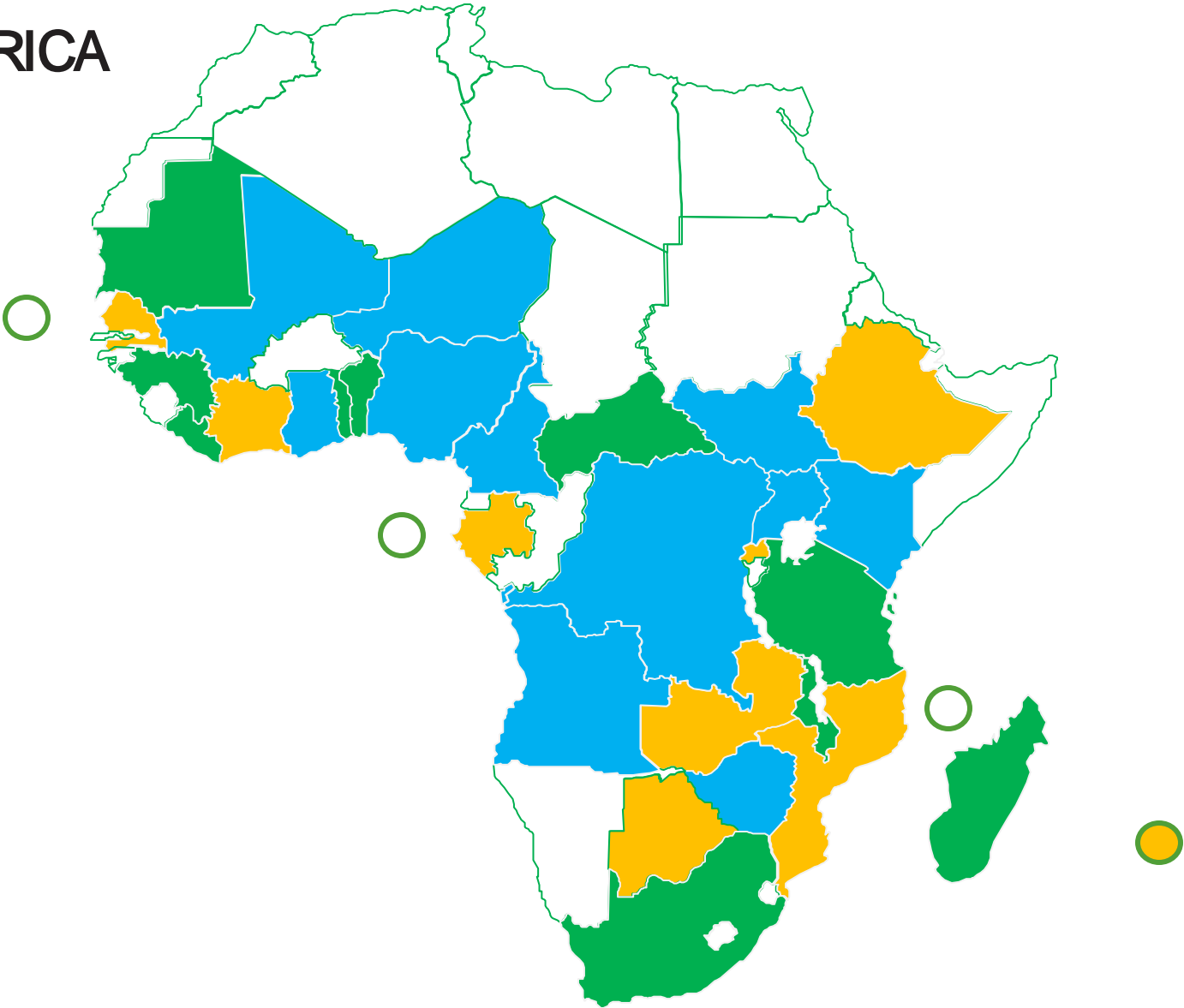
CURRENT PARTICIPATION IN AFRICA

Voting Participant

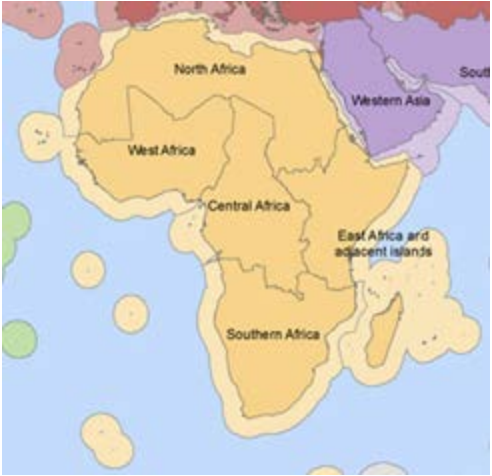
Associate Participant

Non-Participant with project in BID phase 1

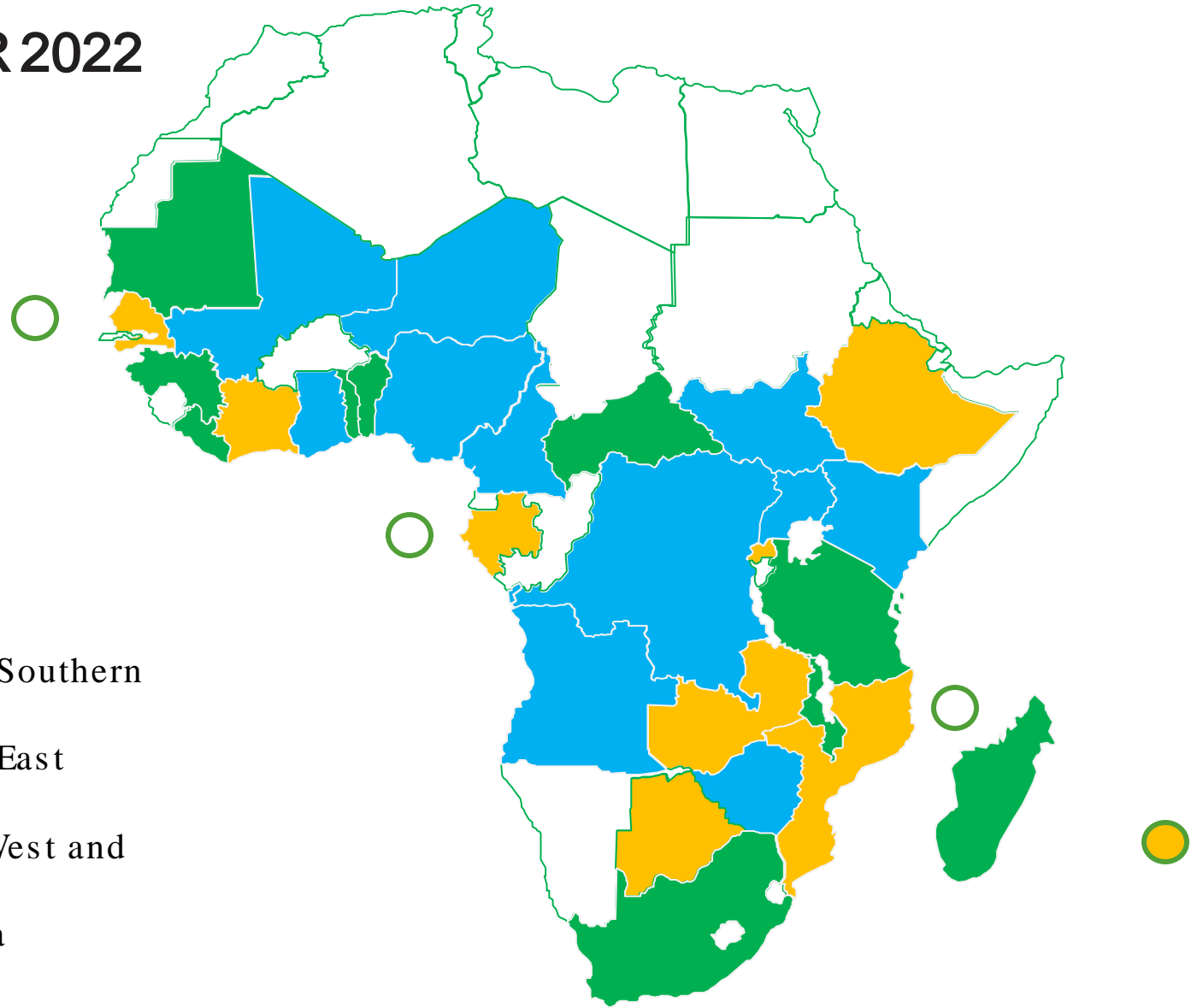
Non-Participant, no projects



POSSIBLE HEADLINE GOALS FOR 2022



1. At least one additional Participant country in Southern Africa
2. At least one additional Participant country in East Africa and adjacent islands
3. At least on additional Participant country in West and Central Africa
4. At least one additional country in North Africa
5. Improved coordination with relevant regional bodies/networks

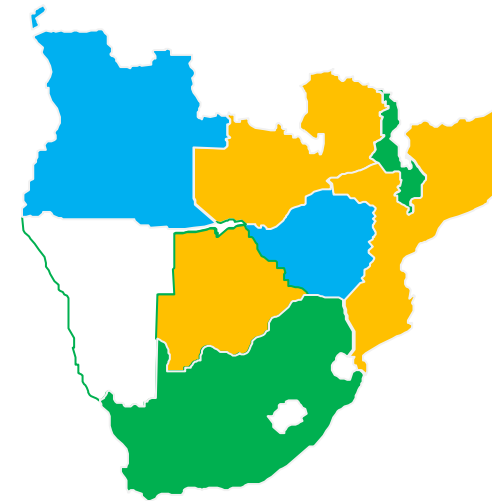


1. AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANT COUNTRY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Priorities 2020-2022:

- a. Build on BID contacts to support participation of Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique
- b. Follow up promising contacts with Namibia including through Africa Biodiversity Challenge
- c. Establish relevant contacts in Eswatini and Lesotho

2020-2021 ACTIVITIES/ROLES?

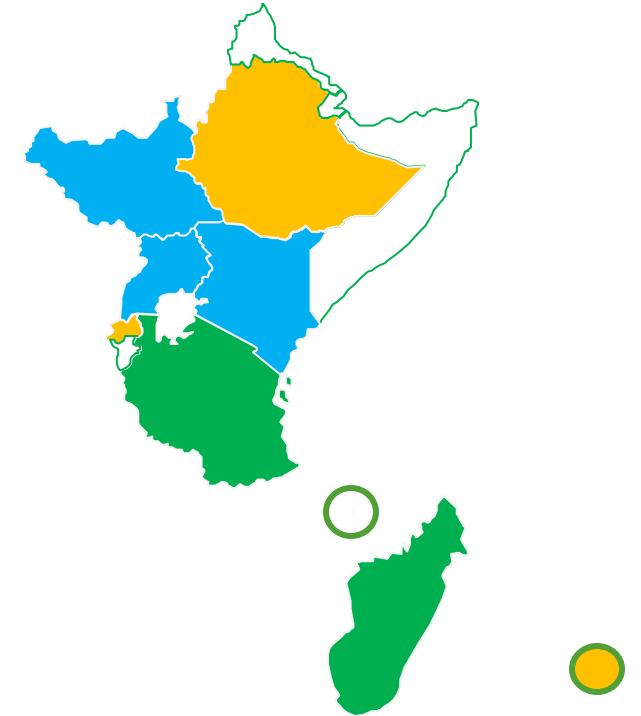


2. AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANT COUNTRY IN EAST AFRICA AND ADJACENT ISLANDS

Priorities 2020-2022:

- a. Build on BID contacts to support participation of Ethiopia, Mauritius
- b. Build on various existing contacts to support participation of Rwanda
- c. Renew previous contacts to support participation of Comoros
- d. Establish relevant contacts in other countries

2020-2021 ACTIVITIES/ROLES?

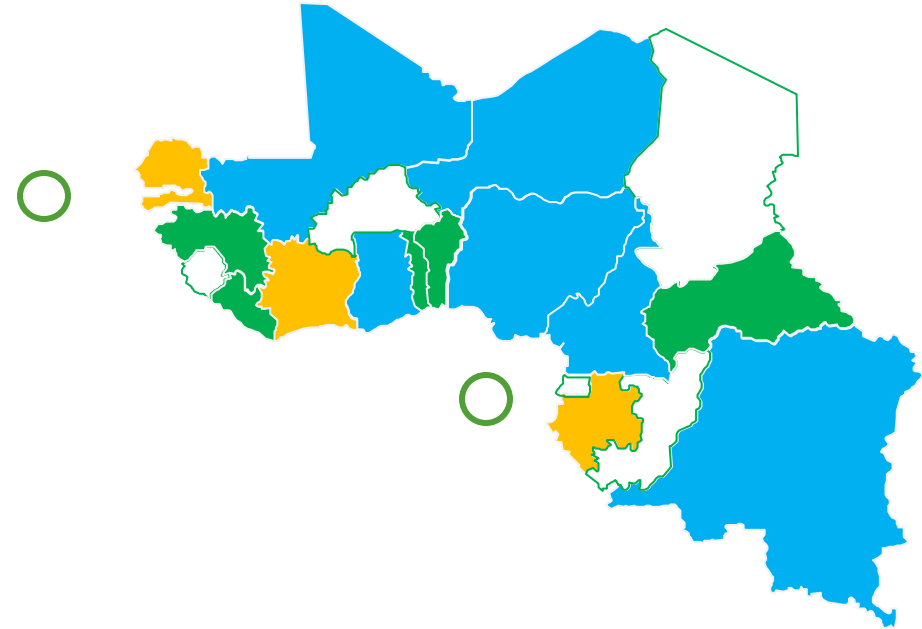


3. AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANT COUNTRY IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

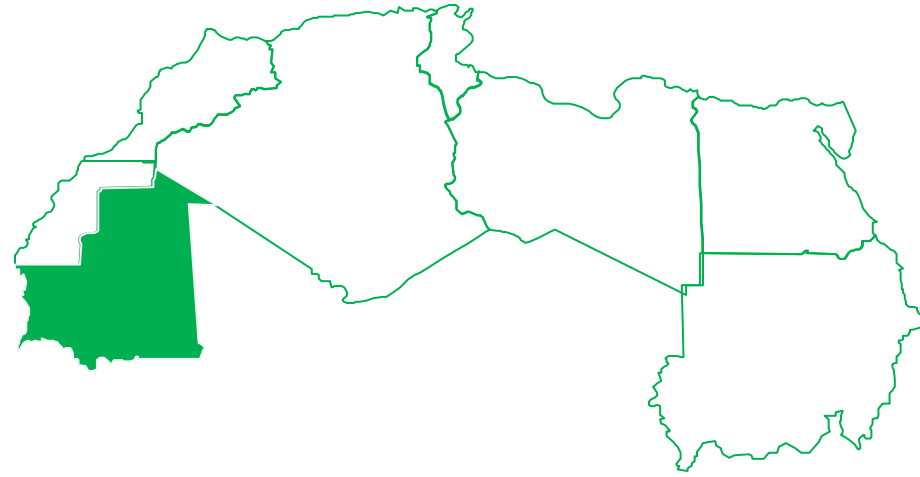
Priorities 2020-2022:

- a. Build on BID contacts to support participation of Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Gabon
- b. Re-establish contacts with Burkina Faso, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea
- c. Establish relevant contacts in other countries

2020-2021 ACTIVITIES/ROLES?



4. AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANT COUNTRY IN NORTH AFRICA



Priorities 2020-2022:

- a. Build on active contacts in Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco
- b. Develop Arabic-language materials and community
- c. Identify additional funding sources for North Africa projects and workshops

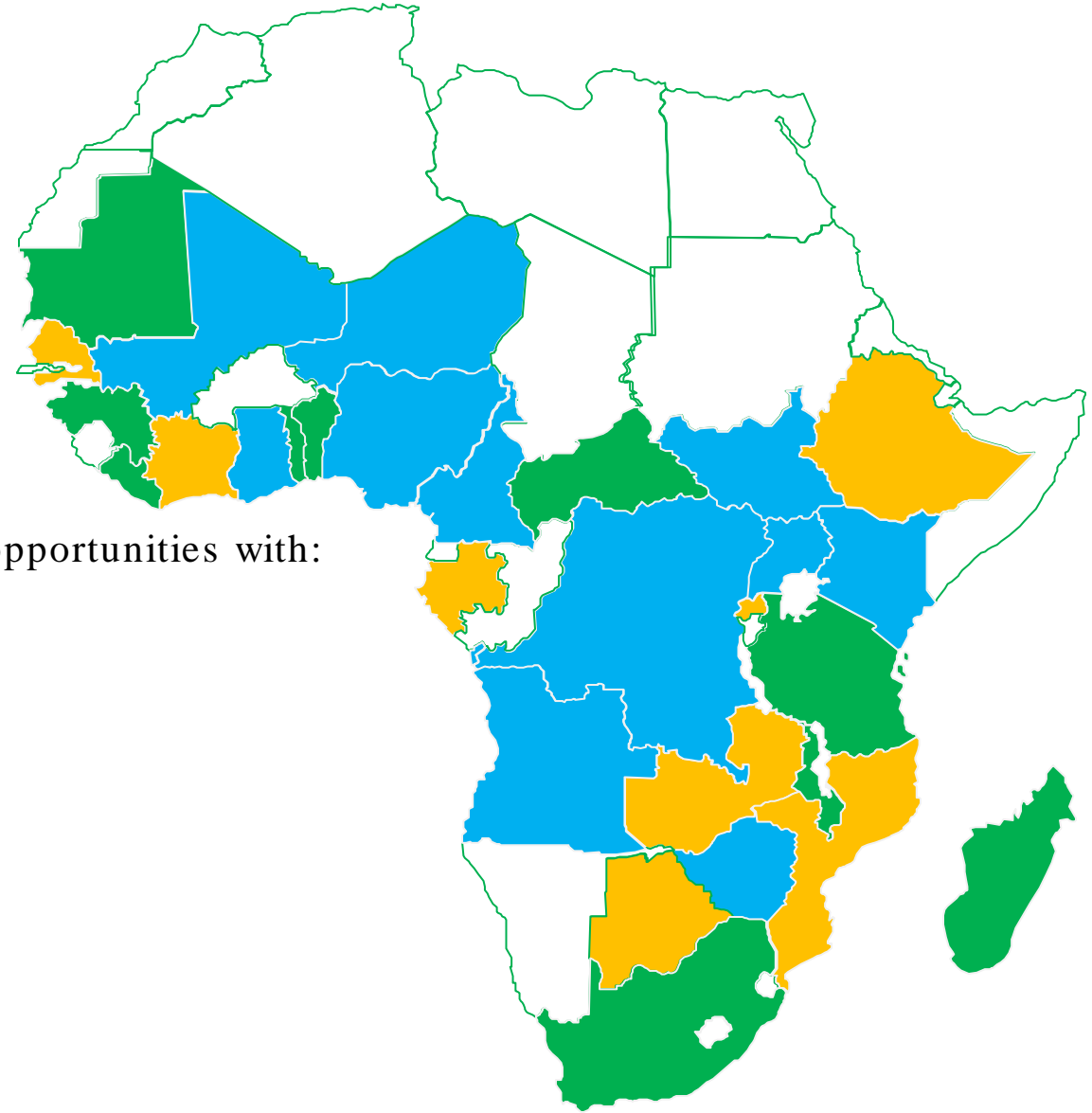
2020-2021 ACTIVITIES/ROLES?

5. IMPROVED COORDINATION WITH RELEVANT REGIONAL BODIES/NETWORKS

Priorities for 2020-2022

Explore formal agreements or informal collaboration opportunities with:

- African Union
- IGAD
- SASSCAL
- IUCN regional offices
- BIOPAMA
- African Open Science Platform
- IPBES regional platforms (e.g. WABES)
- AfrOBIS
- African Development Bank



THANK YOU

Tim Hirsch

thirsch@gbif.org



www.gbif.org




EIGHTH REGIONAL MEETING OF GBIF-AFRICA: Discussion on defining needs, priorities and actions




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 - ☐ Methods
 - ☐ Results
 - ☐ Discussion points

INTRODUCTION

- 
- 
- Among the challenges facing Africa, its biodiversity is not well known in terms of documentations, scientific publications, and data availability for use to inform decisions
 - Limited capacities to achieve demand driven research works and scientific publications to inform decisions as well as insufficient infrastructure, are among the priority challenges to overcome in order to achieve a sustainable conservation and use of the biodiversity resources of the continent

METHODS

- On June 08th, at 10pm (GMT+1), we received from the nodes a total 13 presentations. Due to the remaining time ahead of the meeting, we sampled the presentations received at the rate of 69% and read carefully the samples retained and took them into account to inform the needs, priorities, and actions of the nodes. The sampling also took into account, the representativeness of the sub regions of Africa. The participants sampled from the feedbacks at the time, are marked with a green asterisk

New nodes	Senior nodes	Organizations
Angola*	Benin*	EWT*
Cameroon*	Ghana*	
Niger	Guinea	
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South Sudan	South Africa*	
Zimbabwe*	Togo	

RESULTS: NEEDS, PRIORITY REQUISITES TO SATISFY THE NEEDS, AND ACTIONS TO UNDERTAKE

- Capacity building is one of the priority needs identified by all nodes sampled

Needs	Priorities	Actions
Capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Elaborate the node strategic plan· Enhance capacity in biodiversity informatics (data cleaning for quality data improvement, data use)· Elaborate a fully functional training material to serve as self-instruction document for data holders· Identify priority demand driven fields of data collection and research (threatened or conservation- dependent species)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Develop partnerships at all levels including through mentoring projects· Promote training and capacity enhancement activities.· Maximize the opportunities offered by GBIF in training and capacity enhancement.· Achieve demand driven data collection, publishing, and research works· Promote community participation in data mobilization and periodic organization of workshops

RESULTS: NEEDS, PRIORITY REQUISITES TO SATISFY THE NEEDS, AND ACTIONS TO UNDERTAKE

- Infrastructure development / reinforcement, fundraising strategies, and policy support enhancement for data digitization and data sharing are also among the priority needs identified by the nodes sampled

Needs	Priorities	Actions
Infrastructure development / reinforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Identify priority needs of infrastructure in the nodes· Achieve data management systems to ensure easy access to data by data users	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Assess infrastructure needs across the nodes· Assure constant check for relevant software applications to enhance existing management systems
Fundraising strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Identify priority needs for funds· Identify partners / funders at national, regional and global levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Lobby at national level to have financial support· Engage with regional and international institutions to build win-win partnerships through buying in their strategic and action plans· Elaborate and submit joint projects with regional and international partners
Enhanced Policy support for digitization /Data Sharing	Continuous sensitization of top policy makers	Lobby for GBIF and other international institutions / organizations to receive their supports to reach /sensitize policy makers

DISCUSSION POINTS

- ☐ Any other ideas, to complement the needs, the priorities, and actions identified
- ☐ What is the way forward to implement the sub action plan (needs-priorities-actions)?
- ☐ How can we address this through our action plan?

A man in a dark sweater stands at the head of a long table covered with a black cloth, holding a piece of paper and addressing a group of people. Several people are seated at the table, some looking at laptops. The table is equipped with water bottles, glasses, and papers. The background features a wall with a geometric pattern. A yellow box with the text 'THANK YOU' is overlaid in the top right corner.

THANK YOU

Photo Maheva Bagard Laursen | GBIF, licensed under [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](#).

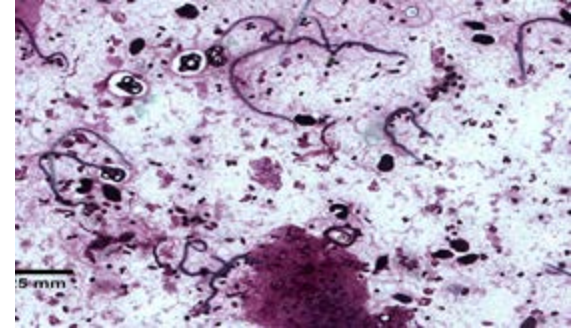


Strengthening communication in GBIF Africa Network

Prof. Pierre Raoufou Radji, Node manager



Communication & Information



SENDER



INFORMATION

LISTENER

SENDER



COMMUNICATION

LISTENER



Communication Process



COMMUNICATION
=
DIALOGUE

COMMUNICATION
=
ART OF FORMATTING
AND CONVEYING
INFORMATION

Efficiency in communication

It is assumed that information is passive and can exist independently of its formatting and transmission

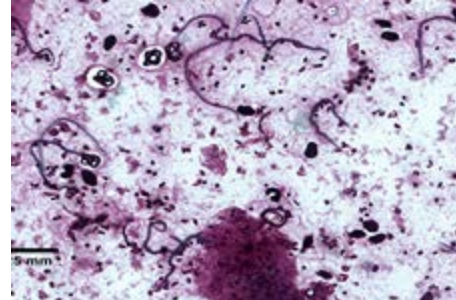
Communication, cannot exist if there is no information to be transmitted. And this information, this message to be communicated must be of interest to the person with whom communication is done.

And in our case, our area of interest is GBIF Africa as well as GBIF globally.

SENDER wait compulsory for feedback coming from LISTENER



How to let WhatsApp group efficient?



Some principles were accepted and the matters to be communicated can be:

- **Experiences sharing**
- **Opportunities for partnerships**
- **Officials documents can't be shared** in this group but the information can be given to exciting members to check their emails and react to the message sent.

Administrators are the 2 Representatives.

Conclusion



- Communication and information are two important tools of any society. Everyday we are using these two concepts to convey messages.
- **Let's try using them** to master GBIF and analyze any event that happens in the network with a more informed eye and be more reactive in GBIF Africa and in the large GBIF community.

So, to update this group, please send your name and number to pradji@hotmail.com or simply whatsapp the below number 0022897173737 by indicating your name

EIGHTH REGIONAL MEETING OF GBIF-AFRICA: Meeting wrap up – summary and next steps



Dr. GANGLO C. Jean
Professor of Forest sciences
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Regional Representative of GBIF-Africa
Virtual meeting 10-12 June 2020

Content



- ❑ Final address
- ❑ Summary of the achievements
- ❑ Next steps

Final address

- Dear GBIF Executive Secretary, Dr. Joe Miller
- Dear staff members of GBIF Secretariat in your distinct and respectful functions
- Dear colleagues, node managers of GBIF-Africa, in your daily commitments
- Dear distinguished observers from different horizons
- I am delighted to thank you very much for your hard work that enabled great achievements of the meeting. Indeed all points / sessions of the agenda were successfully addressed thanks to your assiduity and dedication



SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

☐ **Lightning talks**

- ☐ The issues identified during the lightning talks are included in the main challenges identified in the updates of GBIF-Africa Action plan

☐ **In the updates of the Action plan and recommendations of the 20 year review of GBIF**

☐ Many challenges were identified among which :

- ☐ Capacity building to assure more data mobilization, data cleaning, and data use
- ☐ Promote in-depth capacity building accross Africa by sustaining the ongoing initiatives
- ☐ Reinforce support to national, regional and international initiatives
- ☐ Elaborate a new GBIF-Africa Action plan 2020-2024 with a midterm review (2022)
- ☐ Etc.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

- ❑ A task group is committed to reflect on the challenges and make suggestions to find the way towards overcoming the challenges to enable more successes
- ❑ Composition of the task group:
 - ❑ Lizanne Roxburgh
 - ❑ Fatima Parker Allie
 - ❑ Pierre Radji
 - ❑ Jean GANGLO
 - ❑ Luke
 - ❑ Alex Asase
 - ❑ We need more volunteers to join the group so as to ease the work

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

- ❑ **African Coordination Mechanism**
- ❑ We retained to operationalize it through the following steps
 - ❑ Consultation on the document by the nodes (two weeks) and its endorsement (feedback to RR and Mrs. Fatima Parker Allie, SANBI-GBIF)
 - ❑ Appeal for collaboration and support of nodes
 - ❑ Appeal for close collaboration and interaction with GBIF secretariat so as to enable collective and global success
 - ❑ Fundraising is a big issue
 - ❑ Node / national levels
 - ❑ Regional levels
 - ❑ International level

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

- ❑ *Regional discussion of progress against Global Nodes strategy 2020-2021*
- ❑ *challenges*
 - ❑ Promote more relevant data in terms of preserved specimens and long-term monitoring surveys data
 - ❑ Reinforce mobilization and publication of abundance and sampling event data in the nodes
 - ❑ Promote repositories, websites / portals in the nodes
 - ❑ Whenever possible, staff the nodes to reach the ideal composition
 - ❑ (problem of lack of clear perception of the function of a node, landscape of institution is challenging, lack of institutional engagement, lack of ownership by the head of delegation, insufficient commitment within the team)
 - ❑ Reinforce data mobilization, data use, and services to the community

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

☐ *Presentation and discussion of draft regional engagement strategy to expand the GBIF-Africa network*

- ☐ *General needs of the communities to engage with countries for success of GBIF of the mandate*

- ☐ *Definition of the regions (IPBES)*

- ☐ *Draft of regional engagement strategy*

 - ☐ *Projects to advance the outreach*

 - ☐ *Priorities*

 - ☐ *Bring new participants at least a new participant per sub region*

 - ☐ *Coordination with relevant coordination bodies (include the government)*

 - ☐ *Priorities per sub region*

- ☐ **Collaboration with institutions in Africa**

- ☐ **Fatima**

- ☐ **Alex**

 - ☐ *Define roles of each component f of GBIF in achieving the strategy*

- ☐ **Tim**

 - ☐ *Node will provide information*

 - ☐ *GBIF secretariat to input*

 - ☐ *BID is an opportunity*

 - ☐ *Source of funds*

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

- *Presentation and discussion of draft regional engagement strategy to expand the GBIF-Africa network*
 - *Follow up with RR*

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

- *Discussion on defining needs, priorities and actions*
 - *To be used to update the Action plan*


SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION POINTS

- *Strengthening communication in the region*
 - *Possibilities of communication are listed*
 - *Whatsapp was adopted in Yaoundé*
 - *Exchange of experience*
 - *Partnership for project*
 - *Whatsapp in again underlined*

NEXT STEPS

- ❑ Achievements of the tasks through exchanges of ideas by emails, zoom meeting, Whatsapp etc.
- ❑ Draft reports from the task group awaited on 31st August 2020 (Lizanne, Jean GANGLO, Pierre RADJI, GBIF Secretariat)
- ❑ Submission to the nodes for their feedback (15 September) (Lizanne, Jean GANGLO, Pierre RADJI, GBIF Secretariat)
- ❑ Final report (30 September) (Lizanne, Jean GANGLO, Pierre RADJI)
- ❑ Lobbying activities for fundraising at national, regional, and international levels as required (follow up by regional representatives with the support of GBIF Secretariat and SANBI-GBIF) (Fatima, Jean GANGLO, Pierre RADJI, GBIF Secretariat)
- ❑ Operationalization of the ACM (Fatima, Jean GANGLO, Pierre RADJI, GBIF Secretariat)
- ❑ Implement the regional engagement strategy (GBIF Secretariat, RR, Fatima)
- ❑ Organization of the 9th regional meeting (when and where to be confirmed) (Jean GANGLO, Pierre RADJI)

FINAL WORDS

- 
- ☐ Warm congratulations to all of you
 - ☐ Thank you very much!
 - ☐ God bless you!
 - ☐ Goodbye!

A group of people, including a man in a red shirt and several African men, are gathered around a table in a room with windows and curtains, working on laptops. A yellow banner with the text "THANK YOU" is overlaid on the image.

THANK YOU